GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1148
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
ILO REPORT ON EQUALITY AT WORK
PRABHA RAU

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have released recently a report of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on Equality at Work

(b) if so, the salient features of the report;

(c) whether the report reveals that women are placed in the unskilled lower paying wage category; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR)

(a): The Government in collaboration with the ILO Area Office, New Delhi jointly released the ILO`s Global Report titled `Time fo Equality at Work` on the 12th of May 2003.

(b): The salient features of the Report are:

(i) Discrimination is still a common problem in the workplace.

(ii) Progress in fighting discrimination at work has been uneven and patchy, even for long recognised forms such as discrimination against women.

(iii) Inequalities within the discriminated groups are widening.

(iv) Discrimination often traps people in low-paid, informal economy jobs.

(v) The failure to eradicate discrimination helps perpetuate poverty.

(vi) Everyone gains from eliminating discrimination at work- individual, enterprises and society at large.

(c): Yes Sir.

(d): The Minimum Wage Act, 1948 and Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 in the country have been legislated with a view to ensure gender equality at the workplace. The State Governments are empowered/authorised to initiate action against the violation of payment of equal remuneration and payment of minimum wage at the workplace, whenever required, under the Equal Remuneration Act and Minimum Wage Act respectively.